



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



2014 Drought Response Report

State Operations Center Situation Brief – February 22, 2014



Situational Summary

The lack of winter rain and snowfall has resulted in extremely dry conditions in many parts of the State. Reservoir levels are down significantly from where they should be on average for this time of year. If conditions continue without substantial rainfall, severe impacts to municipal water supplies, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities are likely in store for the State for several months. Negative economic impacts will also result. The Governor has established a Drought Task Force to prioritize State actions needed to address these conditions. Governor Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for these drought conditions. The State Operations Center (SOC) is activated to implement objectives in support of the Governor's priorities.

Many local jurisdictions have enacted water conservation measures. The Office of Emergency Services is in close contact with counties and local officials to monitor the water conditions, agriculture and economy.

As a result of the drought DWR has informed the customers of the State Water Project (SWP) that deliveries in 2014 will be discontinued if current dry conditions persist. Deliveries to agricultural districts with long-standing water rights in the Sacramento Valley may be cut 50 percent (the maximum permitted by contract) depending upon future snow survey results. Storage in key reservoirs now is lower than at this time in 1977, one of the two previous driest water years on record. While additional winter storms may provide a limited boost to reservoir storage and water deliveries, it would need to rain and snow heavily every other day from now until May to get us back to average annual rain and snowfall. The allocation may change depending on future storm events.

Drought Impacts

1. Drinking Water (updated 2/18/14)

- Individual households on wells and small water districts may have immediate and increasing vulnerability.

2. Fires (updated 2/18/14)

- Fire risk is high and will increase as the drought worsens. CALFIRE reports that the current fire activity is well above the year-to-date average of 147 fires, burning 478 acres and higher than the year-to-date figure in 2013 (127 fires burning 454 acres).

3. Economic Impacts(updated 2/18/14)

- Winter recreation businesses have taken a huge hit economically, due to the lack of snow, affecting ski resorts, snowmobile sales and repairs, lack of snowmobilers, cross country skiers, and families out for snow sledding.
- Lack of any spring runoff will affect the river rafting trade, kayakers, fishing, and in turn affect restaurants, motels, fuel sales, hardware & grocery stores. Without the water to release in the creeks there will be a negative impact to fish spawn.

Drought Impacts (continued)

5. Agricultural Impacts (updated 2/18/14)

- California's current drought conditions will have significant negative agricultural, cultural, social and economic impacts. Limited hay production and increased salt build up in the soil will severely limit agricultural production by ranchers and farmers throughout the state resulting in fewer jobs and less revenue.

6. Community Impacts (updated 2/18/14)

- As a consequence of reduced agricultural production and impacts to other economic sectors, laborers from those sectors will be negatively impacted. Needs such as food and housing will become critical especially in agricultural areas.

Federal Resources

On February 14, 2014 the White House announced emergency funding from several federal programs to support drought response. This announcement was coordinated with President Obama's visit to Fresno County. Emergency assistance includes:

- \$100 million in expedited livestock disaster assistance to California farmers and ranchers by USDA.
- \$60 million for California food banks to help families.
- \$5 million of funding for conservation projects at California farms and ranches, provided by USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program.
- \$5 million for emergency watershed improvements to enable activities such as stabilizing stream banks and replanting bare lands.
- \$3 million for emergency grants to rural communities facing drinking water shortages.
- Summer food programs: The USDA committed to expanding the number of Summer Food Service Program meal sites to 600 locations in drought stricken areas throughout the state.
- Reduced water usage in federal buildings: Federal agencies were directed by the President to immediately reduce water use at federal facilities in California, including a moratorium on new non-essential landscaping projects.
- \$1 billion Climate Resilience Fund.
- \$15 million in targeted conservation assistance for the most extreme and exceptional drought areas.

State Advance/Strategic Planning

State actions looking forward for 30, 60 120 days ahead will focus on:

- State and federal funding and legislative actions.
- Agricultural support, including USDA programs and other assistance to farmers.
- Actions to address water system operations and water supply, including curtailments, transfers, delta emergency actions.
- Actions to assess and assist with emergency needs related to drinking water.
- Assessment of hydropower generation, and any direct or indirect impacts to the electricity supply.
- Actions to address long-term habitat preservation.
- Community support needs and delivery of needed services such as food, rental/housing assistance, utilities assistance and support to non-profit organizations.
- Public health and safety issues such as increased fire threat, security threats, and activation of contingency plans.

Current Missions

1. 2014-Inland-2185 Tuolumne County does not have a water master or any alternative resources to assist in determining the health of their ground water system. The County is requesting state agency expertise to assist with this determination.

CDPH Drinking Water Critical Systems

Information as of February 14, 2014

System Name	County	District/LPA	Location
Camp Condor	Kern	Tehachapi	Taft, CA
Lake of the Woods MWC	Kern	Tehachapi	Frazier Park, CA
West Goshen MWC	Tulare	LPA	Goshen, CA
Whispering Pines Apts	Mariposa	Merced	Mid-Pines, CA
City of Willits	Mendocino	Mendocino	Willits, CA
Redwood Valley CWD	Mendocino	Mendocino	Redwood Valley, CA
Brooktrail Township CSD	Mendocino	Mendocino	Willits, CA
Washington Ridge Conservation Camp	Nevada	Valley	Nevada City, CA
Ophir Gardens	Placer	LPA	Auburn, CA
River Highlands CSD	Yuba	LPA	Gold Village Subdivision Smartsville, CA

Notes:

LPA = Local Primary Agency Usually a County Environments Health Department

CWS = Community Water System

CWD = County Water System

CSD = Community Service District

MWC = Mutual Water Company



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CDFA Information Sessions on Drought Resources

California Department of Food and Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be holding informational sessions on drought resources for farmers, ranchers and farmworkers in several locations throughout the state

Date	Time	Venue	Address	City
2/25/2014	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Ventura Co. Agricultural Commissioner's Office	555 Airport Way, Suite E	Camarillo
2/26/2014	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	San Diego Co. Farm Bureau	1670 E. Valley Parkway	Escondido

County Drought Task Force Meetings

County Drought Task Force Upcoming Meetings	
Inland Region	
County	Drought Task Force Meeting
Butte	
Madera	
Modoc	
Nevada	2/28/2014
Placer	3/5/2014
Plumas	2/24/2014
Sacramento	
San Joaquin	
Siskiyou	
Stanislaus	
Sutter	3/13/2014
Tehama	
Tuolumne	
Coastal Region	
County	Drought Task Force
Mendocino	2/26/2014
San Mateo	
Southern Region	
County	Drought Task Force
San Luis Obispo	3/4/2014
Santa Barbara	3/12/2014



County Updates

Santa Barbara County:

- Santa Barbara County and the National Weather Service upgraded the County drought status to D4 (exceptional drought). Community Outreach/ Public information and information gathering continue. Montecito Water District continues to mandate 30% reduction in water usage by all customers. The Montecito Water District will run out of water by July. Cachuma Tecolote Tunnel hydro pumping lacks necessary electrical infrastructure for long term pumping sustainability. Attempting to identify and establish long term permanent solution for Tecolote Tunnel design shortfalls. California Department of Water Resources reduced Santa Barbara County's state water allotment from 5% to 0%. Santa Barbara County is exploring resolution options in response to the reduction.

County Updates

San Luis Obispo County:

- The area of rural San Luis Obispo that includes the County Operational Center, Camp San Luis and thus CSTI, CDCR California Men's Colony, and Cuesta College is facing water supply shortages. Because the water flows through CDCR pipelines would need to be installed to connect to other water systems. The expense for this project is estimated to be up to \$1,000,000. State Assembly Member Katcho Achadjian's office, CDCR, and the County will be discussing the situation.
- Cambria Community Services District (CSD) could run out of water within a few months. Cambria CSD is working on options for alternate water supplies which could include a desalination facility on San Simeon Creek. Another option may include working with State Parks on the use of two older wells and the use of wells not used in many years due to chemical concerns.
- The community of San Simeon, with water service by the San Simeon Community Services District, is showing elevated levels of salt in their potable water source. Distribution of recycled water has begun from the CSD's recycled water system. No use of potable water is allowed for irrigation purposes.

County Updates

Tuolumne County:

- The County needs to evaluate the ground water systems that support 136 small water agencies and private well and septic owners that are not part of the Tuolumne Utilities District System (TUD). The County does not have a water master or other expertise to assist in determining the health of our ground water system. The County is requesting state agency assistance with this determination.
- The Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) has requested 2300 Acre Feet (AF) transfer from the New Melones reservoir to supplement their current water needs. A conference call was conducted with Inland REOC, SOC, Tuolumne County UD, Tuolumne EOC and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to discuss the County's concerns. Local solutions are being exhausted first. Coordination is continuing with TUD.

Sacramento:

- Salinity in the Delta has moved upstream past the sensors so they are unable to measure the extent of the intrusion upstream in the Delta. The task force is looking at some options to assist local jurisdictions such as Folsom – including pumps, barges, pipelines, etc. Nine (9) wells have been evaluated by Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) which has found no issues with the wells. The City of Folsom is still at a Stage 3, 20% water reduction. Folsom is recycling water from fire hydrant tests, cleaning water lines and other sources by pumping the used water into water tankers and storage containers if possible, for use in dust abatement. In addition, construction companies are drilling temporary non-potable water for dust abatement and other use on construction sites. Coordination is continuing with Sacramento Drought Task Force.

County Updates (continued)

Mendocino:

- Redwood Valley County Water District (RVCWD) submitted a Prop 84 funding project request to California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Head Quarters. The total project cost is estimated to be \$400,000, and they are asking for the maximum amount of Prop 84 funding for this project of \$250,000. The project calls for building a 6-inch intertie between the RVCWD system and Calpella County Water District. The intertie and associated pump could provide up to 300 gallons per minute (gpm) to RVCWD's approximately 4,000 customers (1,400 residential connections). However, it will not cover the cost to upgrade the Calpella/Millview intertie which will be needed to reach the full capacity of the intertie. The water system is still looking for funding/alternatives for this part of the project. The funding agreement, if approved, will require that RVCWD is no longer supplying agriculture and that RVCWD has mandatory conservation levels for their residential customers. It will also require that they have contracts in place with Calpella County Water District to transfer the water and with another community water system (with adequate water rights) to supply the water before fund reimbursements are given.
- Water districts have reported issues with DFW/SWRCB/DWR flow/variance permits, requiring them to release more water than they want to release.
- The City of Willits reported that they were applying for an additional \$500,000 from USDA.
- Cal OES is continuing to coordinate the situation in Mendocino County.

Weather Synopsis by Region

February 22, 2014

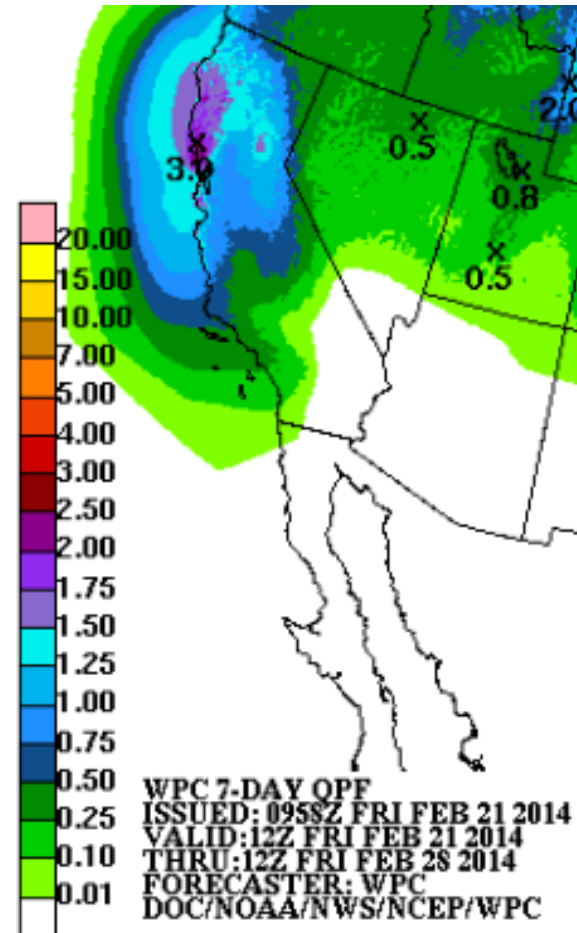
Northern & Central California

Eureka Weather:

High pressure building over the North Coast region will bring warm temperatures and dry conditions to Northwest California this weekend. A change to a cooler and wetter pattern is expected towards the middle of next week.

San Francisco Weather:

Unseasonably warm and dry conditions will persist through Tuesday, then a change in the weather pattern will bring cooler temperatures and widespread rainfall to the San Francisco Bay Area region for the latter half of next week.



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Weather Synopsis by Region

February 22, 2014

Central California and Southern San Joaquin Valley

Sacramento Weather:

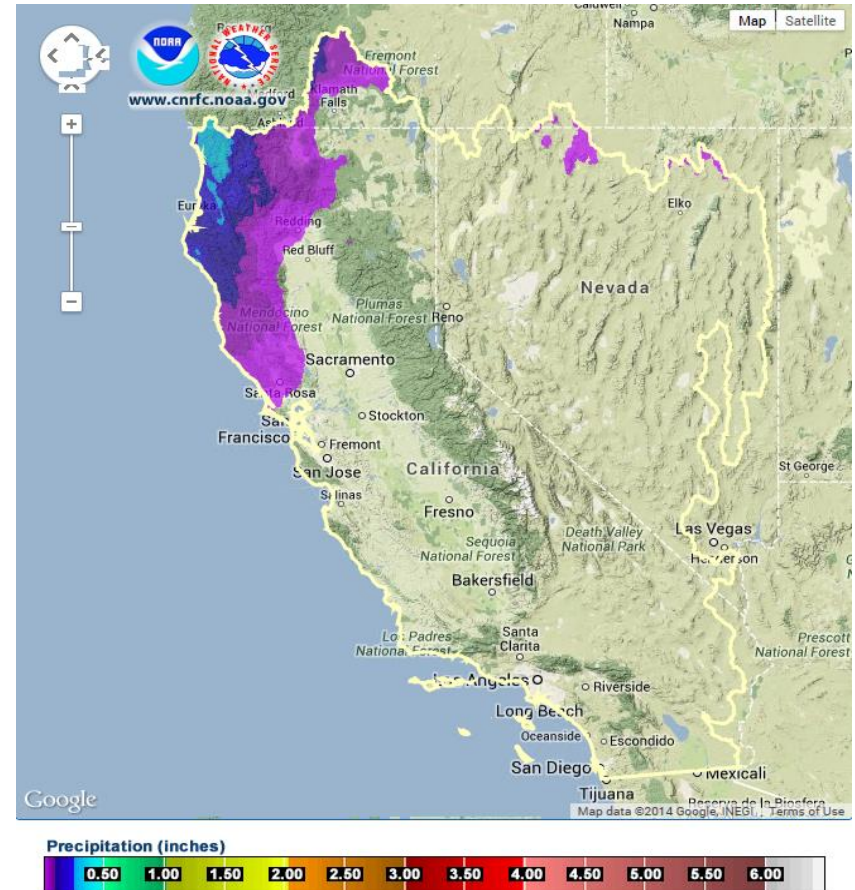
Dry and mild conditions will persist through Tuesday. A change to a wetter and colder weather pattern as early as Wednesday and continuing through at least next weekend is forecast.

Hanford Weather:

Dry and mild conditions expected through early next week. A weather system pushing into the region by the middle of next week has the possibility of bringing showers and higher elevation snow.

California Precipitation Graphic

5 Day (2/21/14 – 2/26/14)



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Weather Synopsis by Region

February 22, 2014

Southern California

Los Angeles Weather:

An onshore flow will increase tonight and deepen the marine layer and bring a cooling trend through next week with temperatures reaching below what is seasonally normal by Wednesday. A couple of storm systems will arrive next week; one on Wednesday and potentially a more significant storm by next Friday into early next weekend.

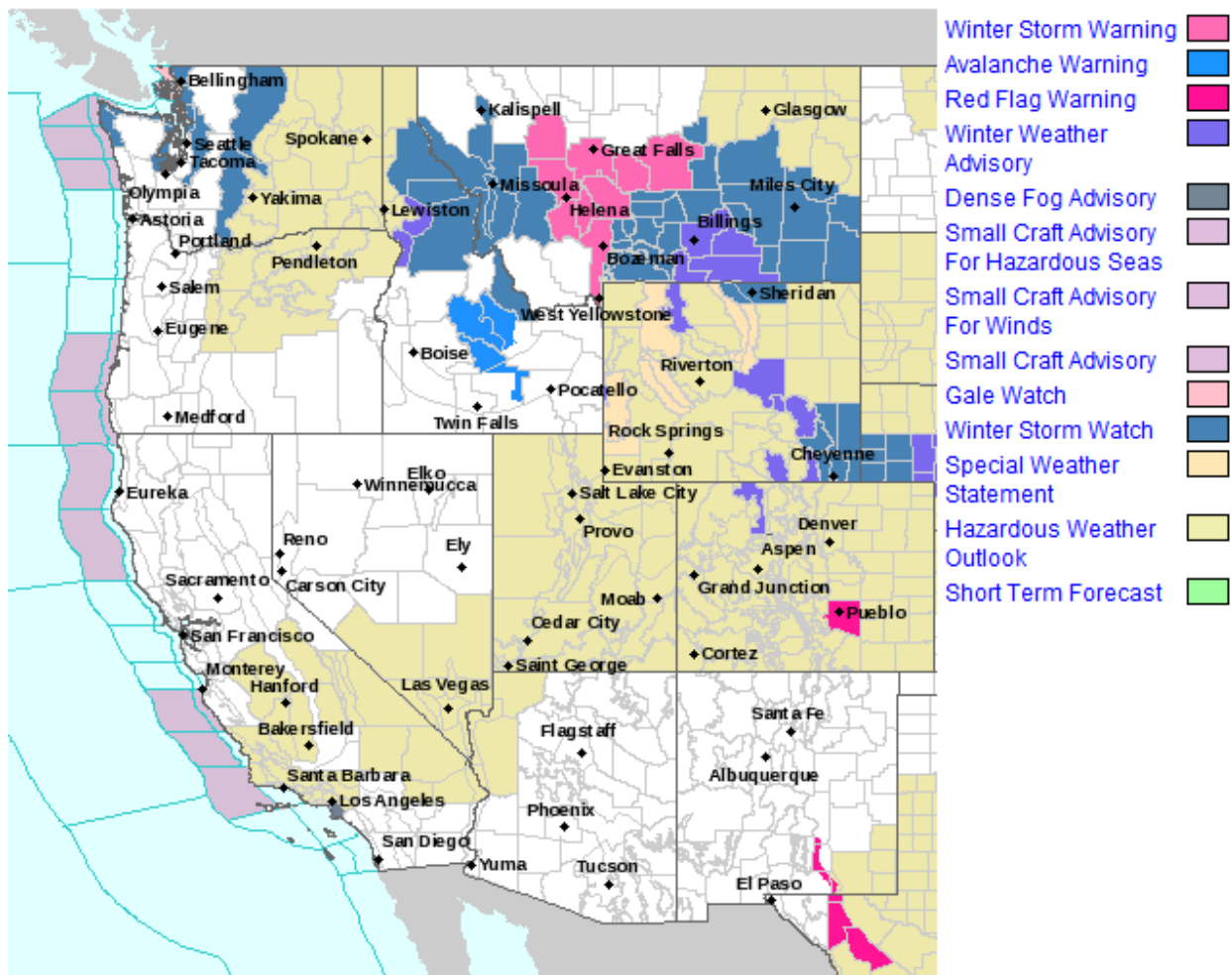
San Diego, Western Riverside, and Southwestern San Bernardino Weather:

The marine layer will deepen into early next week with a weak onshore flow. This will bring a cooling trend with increasing night and morning coastal low clouds and fog. A low pressure system moving through Southern California on Wednesday night and Thursday could bring light to moderate precipitation amounts along and west of the mountains with the strongest west wind gusts in the mountains and deserts. For Friday afternoon into Saturday, a stronger low pressure system could bring moderate to heavy precipitation amounts along and west of the mountains with strongest southwest wind gusts in the mountains and deserts to around 75 mph.

Southeast California Weather:

Dry and mild weather with occasional high clouds are expected through the middle of next week but big changes are in store for the end of the week. A strong area of low pressure is expected to form over the Eastern Pacific mid to late next week bringing increasing chances for gusty winds, Valley rain with mountain snow and cooler temperatures.

State Weather Map



Last map update: Feb, 22nd 2014 at 9:10:36 am MST



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National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook



Legend

Fuel Dryness

-  Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
-  Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
-  Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
-  Data Unavailable.

High Risk Events

California - North Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Predictive Service Area	Thu Feb 20	Fri Feb 21	Sat Feb 22	Sun Feb 23	Mon Feb 24	Tue Feb 25	Wed Feb 26	Thu Feb 27
NC01 - North Coast								
NC02 - Mid Coast								
NC03A - Bay Area-Marine								
NC03B - Diablo/Santa Cruz Mtns								
NC04 - Northwestern Mtns								
NC05 - Sacramento Valley								
NC06 - Northeast CA								
NC07 - Northern Sierra								
NC08 - East Side								

Weather

High pressure will take over the region's weather pattern today thru the weekend. Afternoon temperatures are expected to warm by 10 degrees in many areas. There will be a few periods of light NE/Offshore winds thru Sunday morning. Conditions are expected to be dry into the middle of next week. Winds then shift to the SW-W late Sunday as the high moves east of the region. This will begin a gradual cooling trend and then set the stage for a return to wet weather by late next week as a series of Pacific storm systems are expected to move onshore across CA.

Fuels/Fire Potential

Fuels in all PSAs should remain in the **Moist** category thru the 7-day period in spite of some drying under high pressure and light NE/Offshore winds early in the period. Recent rains have begun a new green grass crop in many areas below 3000 ft.

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/7Day.pdf>

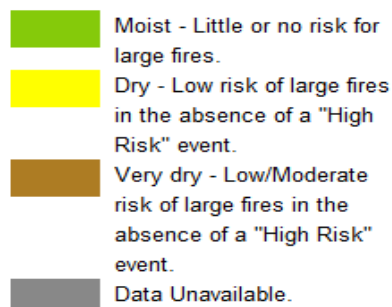


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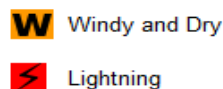


Legend

Fuel Dryness



High Risk Events




Missing Stations

- None

California - South Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Issued: Saturday, Feb 22, 2014

Parameters: None 

Predictive Service Area	Fri Feb 21	Sat Feb 22	Sun Feb 23	Mon Feb 24	Tue Feb 25	Wed Feb 26	Thu Feb 27	Fri Feb 28
SC01 - Eastern Sierra								
SC02 - Central Sierra								
SC03 - Southern Sierra								
SC04 - Sierra Foothills								
SC05 - Central Valley								
SC06 - Central Coast Interior								
SC07 - Central Coast								
SC08 - South Coast								
SC09 - Western Mountains								
SC10 - Eastern Mountains								
SC11 - Southern Mountains								
SC12 - Lower Deserts								
SC13 - Eastern Deserts								
SC14 - Central Mojave								
SC15 - Upper Deserts								
SC16 - Northern Deserts								

Weather

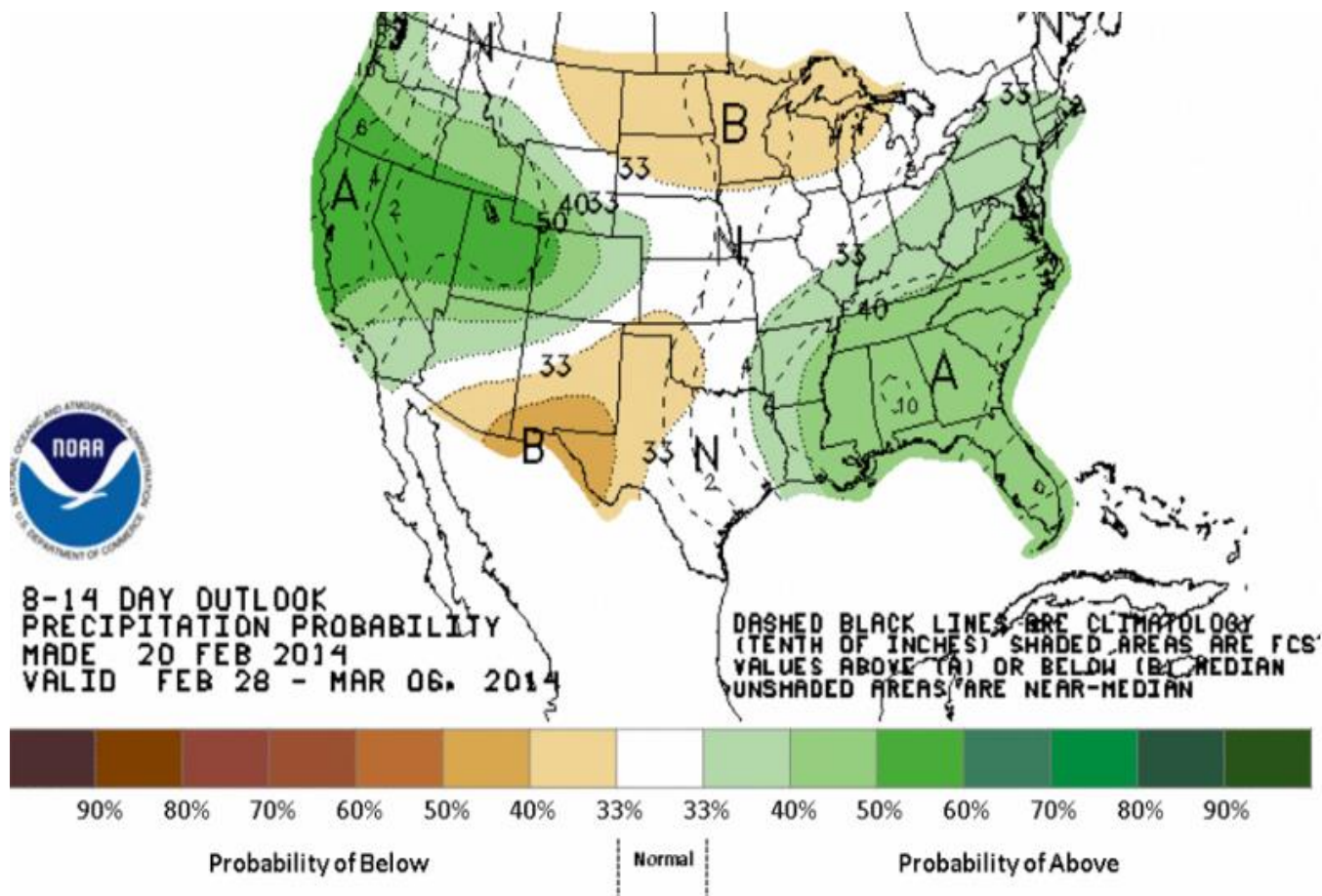
The ridge of high pressure off the West Coast will weaken this weekend and then shift inland early next week bringing slow cooling and a slight increase in humidity to the region. Temperatures will be in the mid 50s to mid 60s in the mountains, with 70s in the valleys and minimum humidity will be mainly between 15% and 30% away from the coast today. Winds will continue to be light and variable less than 15 mph through Tuesday. A couple of storms will affect the region Wednesday through Saturday. The first storm will bring light to moderate amounts of rainfall Wednesday afternoon through Thursday morning, while the second storm is expected to bring heavy rainfall Friday afternoon through Saturday morning. There will be strong south to west winds of 20 to 40 mph with gusts to 60 mph across the mountain ridges and desert passes with both of these storms. Temperatures will be a little below normal across the region Wednesday through next weekend.

<http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/7day/action/forecast/8>



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8-14 Day Precipitation Probability Outlook for February 28 – March 6, 2014

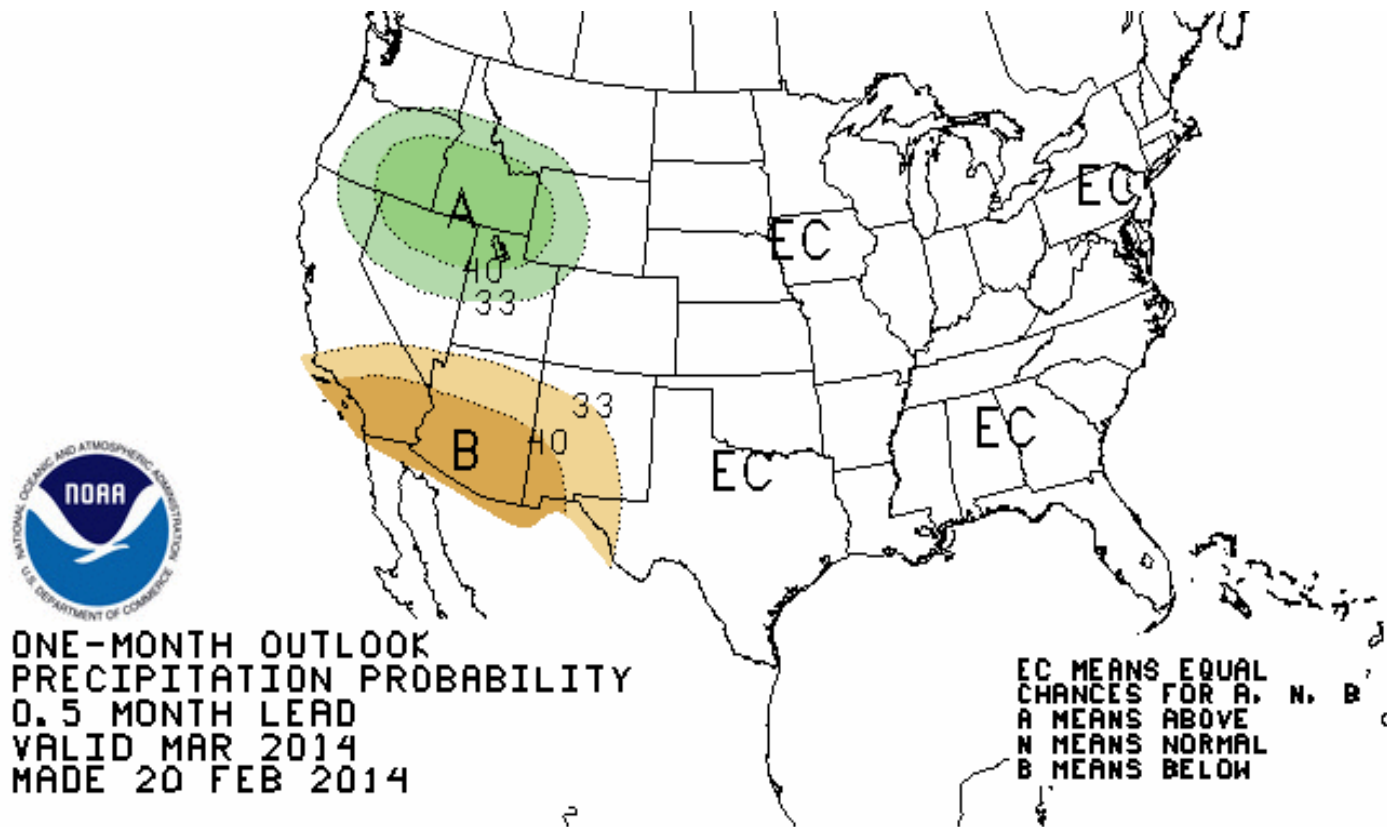


<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/>



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February Precipitation Probability Outlook



There is a greater chance for below normal precipitation in Southern California for the month of February.

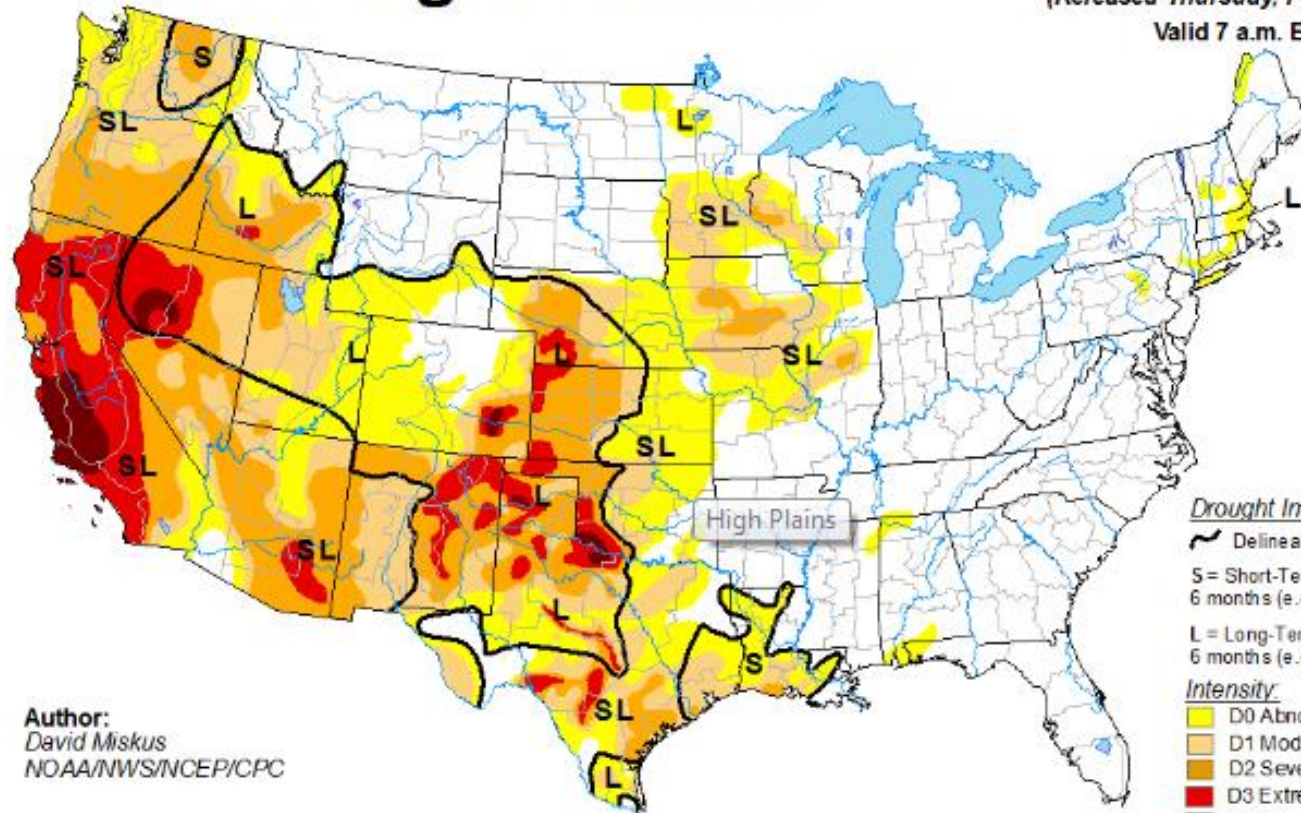
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>



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U.S. Drought Monitor

February 18, 2014
(Released Thursday, Feb. 20, 2014)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

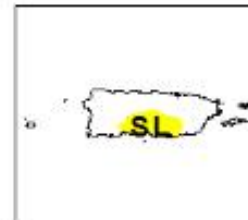
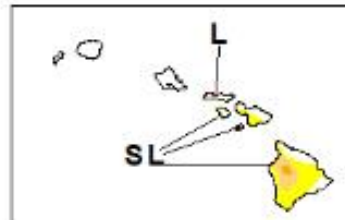
Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



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Weather Summary - Current Drought Conditions in California

U.S. Drought Monitor California

February 18, 2014

(Released Thursday February 20, 2014)

Valid 7 a.m. Eastern

Statistics type: ☒ Traditional (D0-D4, D1-D4, etc.) ☐ Categorical (D0, D1, etc.)

Drought Condition (Percent Area):

Week	Date	Nothing	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2/18/2014	0.00	100.00	94.54	90.82	68.30	14.62
Last Week	2/11/2014	1.43	98.57	94.54	91.59	60.94	9.81
3 Months Ago	11/19/2013	2.61	97.39	96.00	84.12	27.59	0.00
Start of Calendar Year	12/31/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Water Year	10/1/2013	2.63	97.37	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
One Year Ago	2/19/2013	15.45	84.55	47.18	23.72	0.00	0.00

[View More Statistics](#)

Intensity:

D0 - Abnormally Dry
D1 - Moderate Drought
D2 - Severe Drought

D3 - Extreme Drought
D4 - Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying [text summary](#) for forecast statements.

The D4 (Exceptional Drought) is the worst drought category on the Drought Monitor and **the first time it's been used in California since this monitoring system started in 2000.** The degradation was made due to historically low rainfall amounts so far this winter, long-term precipitation deficits stretching several years, and a growing number of increasingly significant drought impacts. **In addition, 61% of California is now covered by D3/D4 conditions.**

Note: Updated Weekly

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/droughtca.php>



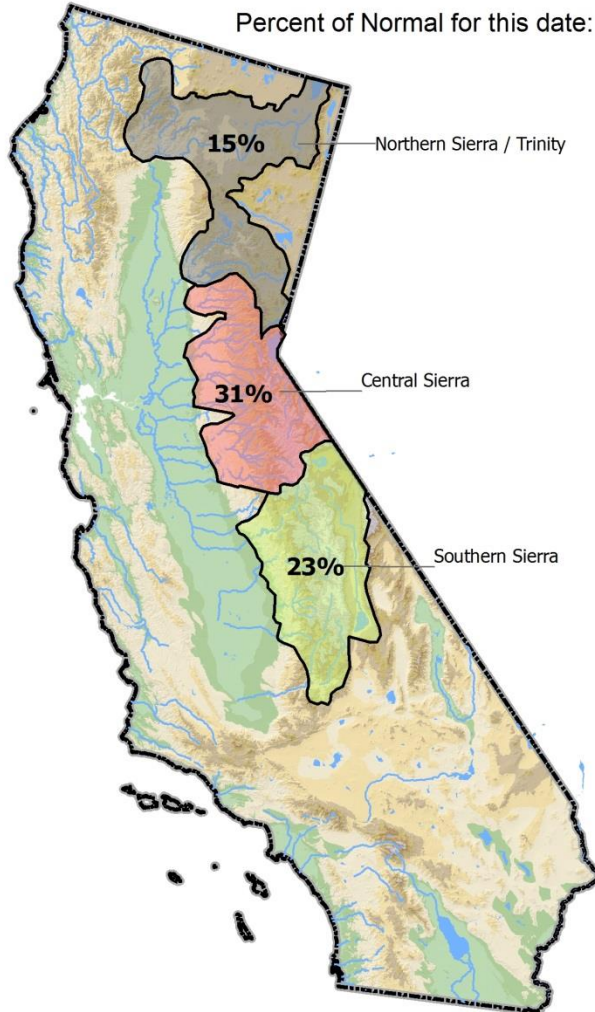
2014 Drought

Statewide Summary of Snow Water Content

Current Regional Snowpack from Automated Snow Sensors

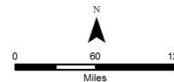
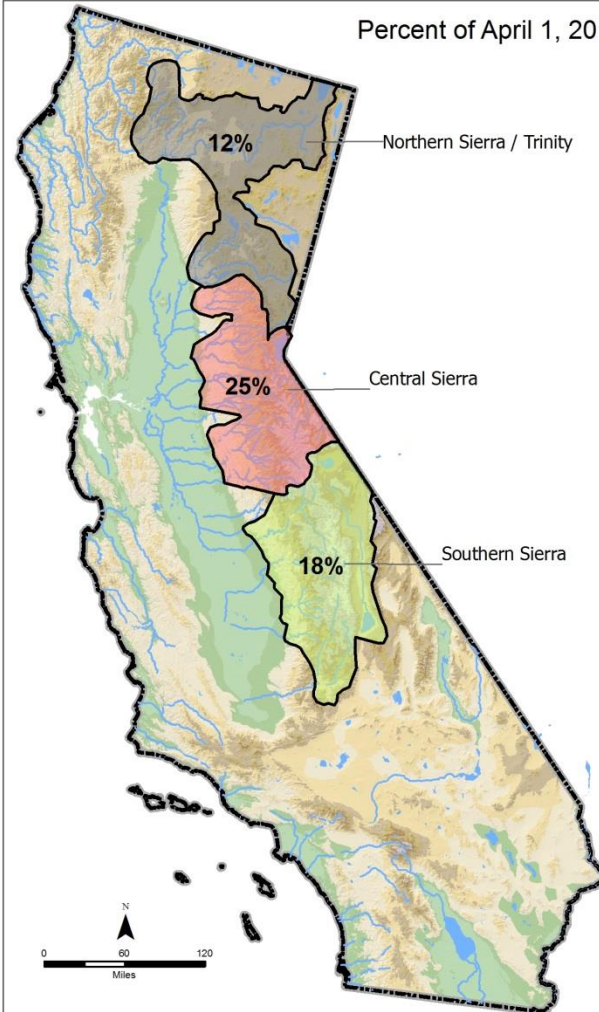


Percent of Normal for this date: 2/20/2014



Source: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snow/DLYSWEQ>

Percent of April 1, 2014 Average



Printed: February 20, 2014

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/snowapp/sweq.action>

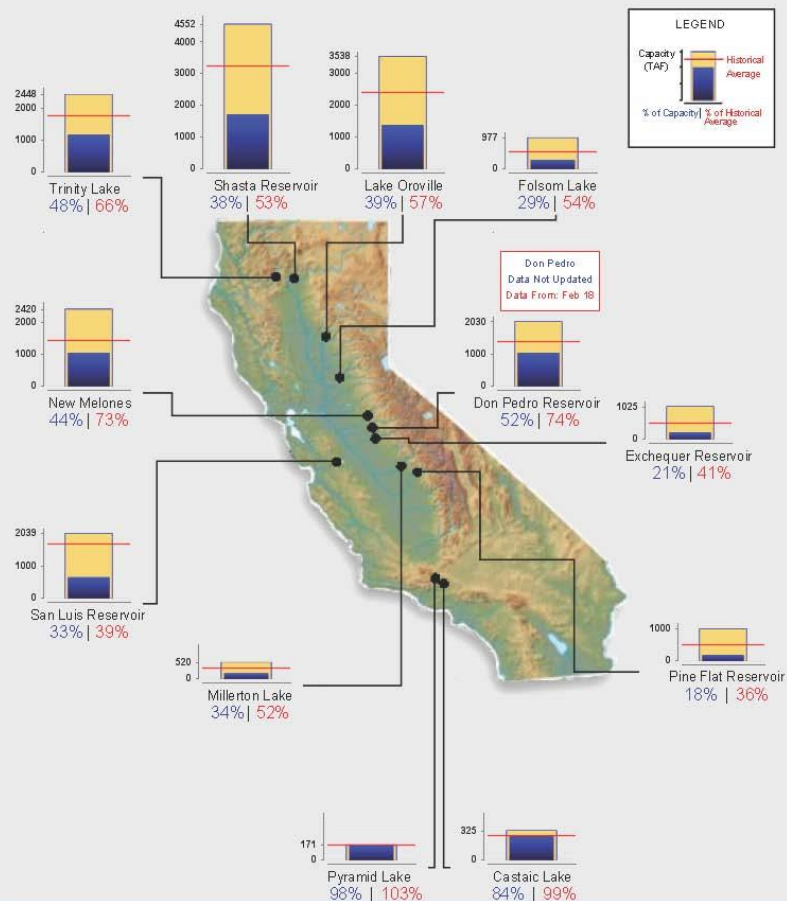


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Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - February 19, 2014

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS



Graph Updated 02/20/2014 09:15 AM

Reservoir Levels

Many parts of California -- including Sacramento and Los Angeles -- marked calendar year 2013 as the driest on record. These extremely dry conditions follow two previous dry years statewide.

Storage in the reservoirs that typically help California cope with dry weather are well below average for this time of year.

River levels are low around the state. Along the North Coast, the Russian River, and the upper Sacramento River, levels are at their lowest points ever for this time of year.

Some water districts with a diversified portfolio of water sources and ample storage -- such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 19 million people -- are prepared to weather a third dry winter.

Farmers who depend heavily on the State's two biggest water projects, the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, face minimal and uncertain supplies.

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/resapp/getResGraphsMain.action>

Proclamations

State

1/17/14 Governor Edmund G. Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency

Counties

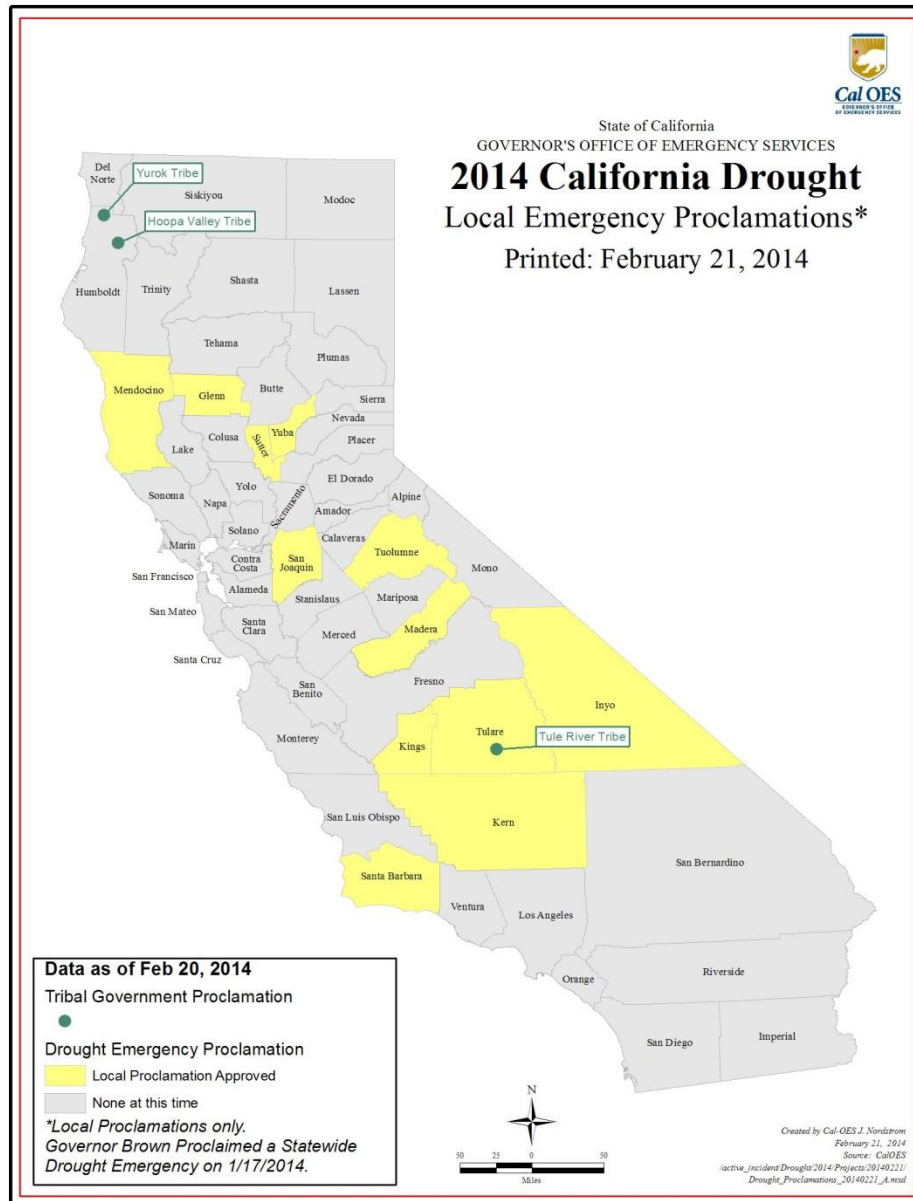
Glenn (1/22/14)
Inyo (1/29/14)
Kern (1/14/14)
Kings (1/14/14)
Madera (1/17/14)
Mendocino (1/7/14)
San Joaquin (1/28/14)
Santa Barbara (1/17/14)
Sutter (2/11/14)
Tulare (2/4/14)
Tuolumne (2/4/14)
Yuba (2/18/14)

Tribal

Hoopa Valley Reservation (1/20/14)
Yurok Reservation (1/29/14)
Tule River Indian Tribe (1/30/14)

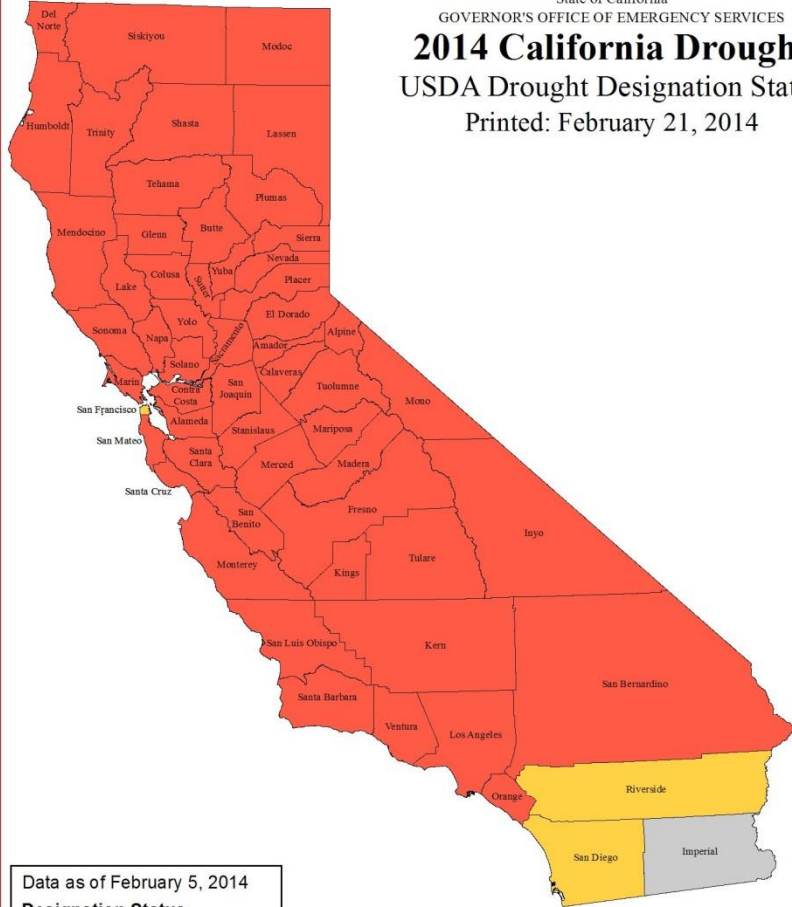
Federal

None





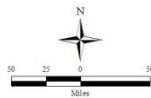
State of California
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
2014 California Drought
USDA Drought Designation Status
Printed: February 21, 2014



Data as of February 5, 2014

Designation Status

- Primary
- Contiguous
- None



Created by Cal OES J. Nordstrom
February 21, 2014
Source: USDA, Cal OES
active_incidents Drought 2014 Projects 20140221
USDA_DroughtDisasterDesignations_20140221.mxd

USDA Disaster Designation

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a secretarial disaster designation identifying 54 counties in California as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and 3 contiguous counties. This means that the only county in California that has not received a primary or contiguous county designation for 2014 is Imperial.



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USDA Disaster Designation – Individual Assistance

2014 SBA* DISASTERS

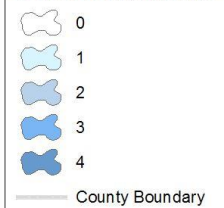
State of California
Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Individual Assistance

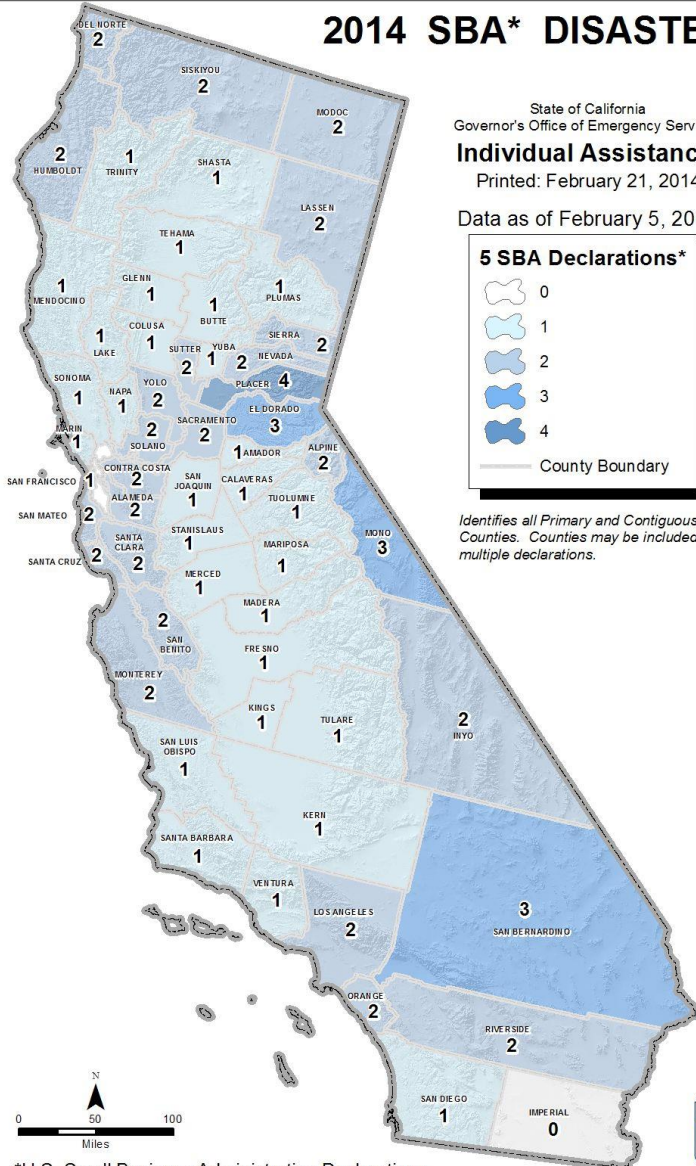
Printed: February 21, 2014

Data as of February 5, 2014

5 SBA Declarations*



Identifies all Primary and Contiguous Counties. Counties may be included in multiple declarations.



*U.S. Small Business Administration Declarations



2014 USDA** DISASTERS

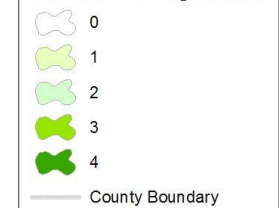
State of California
Governor's Office of Emergency Services

Individual Assistance

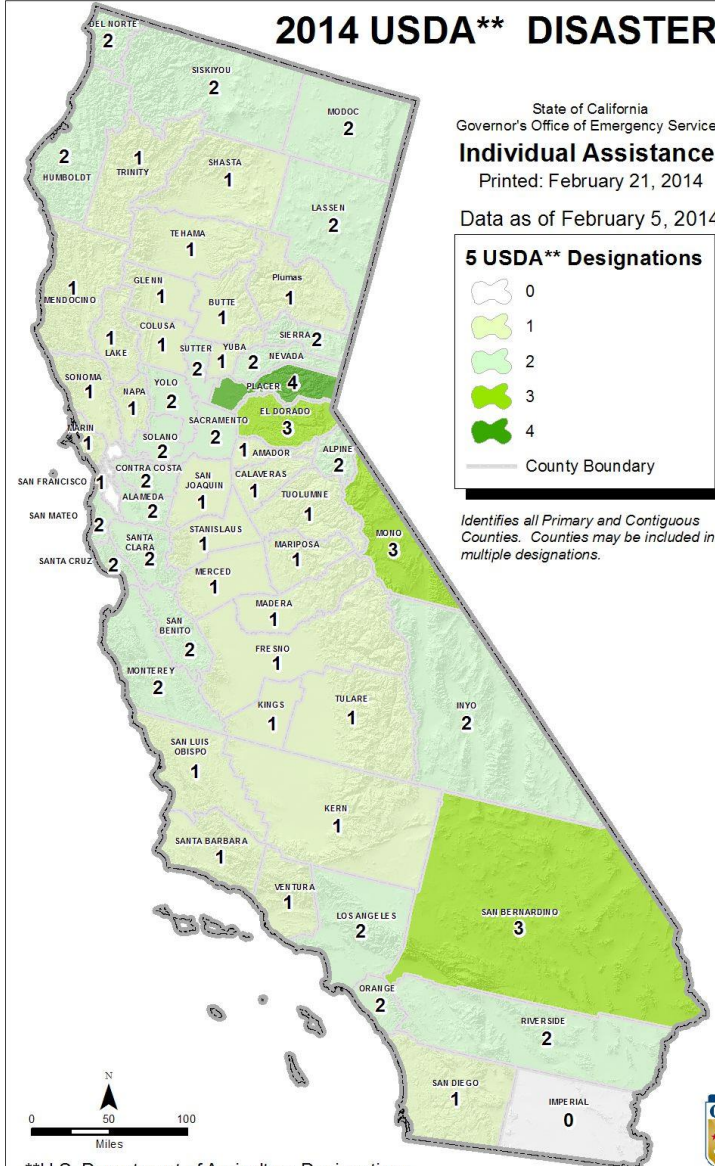
Printed: February 21, 2014

Data as of February 5, 2014

5 USDA** Designations



Identifies all Primary and Contiguous Counties. Counties may be included in multiple designations.



**U.S. Department of Agriculture Designations

